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. FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

P.O. Box 2604 Washington, D.C. 20013 RER-19

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Chief

Panama Bureau, FBIS

Dear Chuck:

As your retirement brings to a close your career of more than 30 years of distinguished service to FBIS, I would like to take this opportunity to convey my best wishes for the future to you and Mary Lou. Especially after the past two years of dealing with the frustrations and complexities of the current situation in Panama, I can well imagine the relief you must feel at the prospect of a respite from the responsibilities you have carried so successfully.

At the same time, I trust that these recent difficulties will not be the predominant memories as you look back on your long and highly productive career. In this assignment, as in those that have gone before it, your professionalism, insight, seemingly boundless energy, and memorable style of leadership have made numerous important contributions both to the success of this organization in carrying out its mission and to the personal and professional development of its younger officers. Beginning as an editor at the former West Coast Bureau, through a wide variety of editorial, staff, and management assignments in Washington and abroad, you have consistently demonstrated a high degree of initiative and persistence, and often taken innovative approaches to problems that have resulted in an outstanding record of achievements in which you can justifiably take great pride. Your zealous pursuit of excellence in every job to which you have been assigned will continue to serve as a model for those who will carry on the important work of FBIS in the future. I have personally benefitted from your direct, no nonsense discussion of issues of great importance to the future of FBIS. For that I thank you very much.

As you move on to a new and well earned phase of your life, you may rest assured that you take with you the sincerest esteem and affection of your many colleagues and friends within FBIS, both staff employees and the many foreign nationals with whom you have worked over these many years. I know they join me in wishing you and Mary Lou many happy, healthy, and fruitful years of retirement.

R. W. Manners
Director

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